



Southern Regional Office (SRO)
400 W. Congress, Suite 433, Tucson, AZ 85701

**DRAFT Minutes of the
Shannon Road/El Camino del Cerro Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF)
Community Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting – 21st Meeting**

June 8, 2005, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Nanini Library, 7300 N. Shannon Road, Tucson, Arizona

W-10190.13.6.2

CAB Members Present: Susan Bjerke, Gary Burchard, James Eigel, Terri Hutts, Al Pesqueira, Eleanor Towne

CAB Members Absent: Fran LaSala, Bob Ornelas, Gary Pitman

ADEQ Staff Present: Sherri Zendri, Project Manager; Melissa Hayes, Community Involvement Coordinator

Members of the Public Present: Randy Abbey, Mike Block, Marty Drozdoff, Marc Herman, Ursula Kramer, Glenna Rader, Dan Stanton

The meeting began at 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Introductions/New ADEQ Project Manager

Al Pesqueira, CAB co-chair, welcomed members and conducted introductions.

2. Approval of Minutes from 9/29/04

Terri Hutts motioned to approve the minutes; Ellie Towne seconded. All CAB members were in favor; none were opposed. Al Pesqueira abstained, since he was not present at the last meeting.

3. Nomination/Election of CAB Co-Chairs for Next Term

Al Pesqueira said that he enjoyed being a co-chair the last term, but offered the position to anyone interested. Melissa Hayes said that Gary Pitman is the other current co-chair, and is not present. She said that the CAB has the option of nominating now and electing at the next meeting or doing both at this meeting; the CAB decided to do both at this meeting. Terri Hutts renominated Al Pesqueira as co-chair for the next term. Ellie Towne renominated Gary Pitman as co-chair for the next term. The CAB members voted on each nominated co-chair individually. All CAB members were in favor of reelecting Al Pesqueira and Gary Pitman as CAB co-chairs. Melissa Hayes said that she would let Gary Pitman know that he was reelected.

4. Vote on Applications to Join CAB: Randall (Randy) Abbey, Martin (Marty) Drozdoff

Melissa Hayes said that the applicants contacted her after reading an ADEQ article about the CAB in Metro Water's December 2004 newsletter. CAB members and applicants discussed their applications, including their familiarity with Arizona Open Meeting Law, whether they had attended CAB meetings before, and if attending four meetings a year would be difficult. Melissa Hayes said that ADEQ provides written guidance on Open Meeting Law to the CAB, and she can assist with any questions. Neither applicant had attended a CAB meeting before, but Marty Drozdoff said he has had training in water issues, and Randy Abbey said that he enjoys the water he drinks and wants to learn how to keep it that way. Applicants had no problem attending four meetings a year.

Marty Drozdoff asked if the CAB feels that the board is a good use of their time; CAB members felt that it is. Gary Burchard added that the WQARF Sites in the state compete for budget, so the CAB shows the state that there are people who are affected and interested, and that funds should be spent on this site. Randy Abbey asked if the diversity of the CAB members on the board is intentional. Al Pesqueira said that the makeup of the board is of the community that was impacted. Melissa Hayes added that by statute, the CAB should have a diversified cross-section of the community, including water providers, community, interested parties and government agencies. She clarified that ADEQ does not have an active role in the CAB nor voting power; she facilitates the CAB and Sherri Zendri is project manager. Terri Hutts motioned to elect Randall Abbey to the CAB; Ellie Towne seconded. All were in favor; none were opposed. Terri Hutts motioned to elect Martin Drozdoff to the CAB; Gary Burchard seconded. All were in favor; none were opposed. Both new members joined the CAB at the table.

5. Site Investigation Update/Q&A – *Sherri Zendri, ADEQ*

Sherri Zendri, the new project manager for the site, introduced herself and reviewed her background. She has a degree in geology, with fifteen years of environmental experience, eight of which have been at ADEQ. She said that her goals for the site for the next fiscal year are to get the treatment system at the South Shannon well operating, to work on negotiations with Pima County regarding resuming work at the former El Camino del Cerro Landfill, to work on access to the Wrecksperts property, and to complete the Remedial Investigation and start the Feasibility Study.

She reviewed discussion topics from the last CAB meeting, including the combination of the El Camino del Cerro and Shannon Road-Rillito Creek WQARF Sites, and showed a map of the new outline of the plume. She said that a new well, W-37, had been installed at the site. She said that the general water flow at the site is to the north and northwest, and discussed contamination in the aquifer, which is found at different levels in the groundwater, both just above the water table and also at a depth of 150 feet below ground surface.

She discussed the projects at the site since the last CAB meeting. Several rounds of groundwater sampling were conducted, and the W-38 well was installed to replace the nearby W-24 well in Western Trailer Park. The W-24 had consistently shown the highest concentrations of contaminants, but went dry. She showed a diagram of the W-38 well, which was drilled down to 300 feet; groundwater is found at a depth of 144 feet below ground surface.

She said that ADEQ is characterizing the contamination before a remediation strategy is proposed (after the Remedial Investigation is completed). She then described the trends from recent sampling. Increases and decreases in contamination were both identified and may be related to the recent rain. Rain can dilute the contamination or it can flush it out of the soil and down toward the groundwater. The South Shannon

well was not included because it has not been sampled in a while since it has been shut down for upgrades to the treatment system.

Sherri Zendri said that ADEQ is providing funding to Metro Water to upgrade the treatment system on the South Shannon well. Work is currently taking place at the well, and she showed photos of the construction. There were previously six air strippers that were treating the water; the upgraded treatment system will use granular activated carbon (GAC), but will keep the air strippers to be used if vinyl chloride is detected. She reviewed the construction schedule; the first phase included preparation to install the GAC, which is slightly behind schedule. She added that an aquifer test was recently done on the South Shannon well to determine the appropriate pumping capacity once the upgraded system is running. She said that the report is final, and Metro Water will get a copy.

She discussed recent activities at the I-10 Surplus property. The property owner passed away and his widow put an ad in the newspaper for people to come and get the items stored there. She said that ADEQ Hazardous Materials Response staff went to the property in early February, after a report that drums of chemicals were stored there. Some drums still remain, but have been catalogued and it is being determined how to remove them from the property. She said that Pima County is the lead enforcement agency for this property, and Ursula Kramer, Director of Pima County Department of Environmental Quality, added that they had a difficult time finding the owners and having enforcement done there, as the materials were considered a product and not a waste. A U-Haul and transmission company has since moved onto the property and is interested in cleaning up the property.

She said that ADEQ and Pima County are discussing resuming work at the former El Camino del Cerro Landfill. She also said that she is resuming work in trying to gain access to the former Wrecksperts property from the property owner. She explained that she has to start over at the beginning in terms of regaining trust since she is the new project manager. She added that finalizing the remedial investigation is a priority for this fiscal year, and not being able to access and investigate the Wrecksperts property currently represents data gaps for the site, so a decision will have to be made soon on proceeding. Melissa Hayes added some background on the former Wrecksperts property and ADEQ remediation activities that took place there in the past. CAB members urged ADEQ to pursue access more aggressively, and voiced their frustrations that gaining property access is taking so long.

Sherri Zendri explained upcoming projects at the WQARF Site, including the next phase of the upgrades to the treatment system at the South Shannon well, another round of water sampling in October, and she mentioned that ADEQ is considering installing additional wells to the north of the Rillito River, on the eastern edge of the plume. She added that these activities are dependent on funding, and ADEQ is waiting to see the budget allocations. Marty Drozdoff asked how funding is divided for WQARF Sites. Sherri Zendri explained that it is based upon health risk, community involvement, and the level of contamination. Gary Burchard added that politics is also a factor, and used the example of the Vulture Mill WQARF Site in Wickenburg. Suzy Bjerke asked for a list of all sites in Arizona and budget allocations.

6. Call to the Public

Glenna Rader asked when the equipment will be removed from the W-24 well in Western Trailer Park. Sherri Zendri said that she would research this and get back to her. Mike Block said that Metro Water

had been seeking a modification to include remediated water from the South Shannon well under a certain state process, and Sherri Zendri was instrumental in helping obtain that.

7. CAB Outreach Discussion/CAB Membership Discussion

Melissa Hayes mentioned the ADEQ article about CAB membership in the December 2004 Metro Water newsletter, and thanked Metro Water. She asked Ellie Towne if the article had also been included on the Flowing Wells Neighborhood Association and Community Coalition Web site, which had been discussed at the last meeting; Ellie Towne said that it had. Marty Drozdoff asked if the CAB can make recommendations to ADEQ about budget allocations at this site. Melissa Hayes said that the CAB has done letter writing in the past, and she clarified Open Meeting Law procedures for this. Sherri Zendri reminded the CAB that a letter would be just a suggestion and ADEQ would not be required to do what is asked. Terri Hutts said that the CAB is trying to get word out about the contamination in the area, and suggested that the CAB should reach out to the Rotary Club to let them know about the site. CAB members felt that, as far as membership, a group is more effective if it is composed of the community where the issue is.

8. Other Administrative Business

Melissa Hayes said that the state legislature renewed ADEQ as a state agency for four more years under the Sunset Legislation. She said that ADEQ will update the fact sheet for the site, now that the sites are combined. She said that she circulated the CAB contact list for CAB members to make any changes to their information so she can update it. Marty asked if the CAB members should start thinking about organizations to perform outreach to, and CAB members said they would discuss it again at the next meeting. They reminded each other that they should pursue outreach about the site independently as well.

9. Next Meeting Date/Agenda Discussion

The next CAB meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 5, 2005 at the Nanini Library, large meeting room, 7300 N. Shannon Rd., Tucson, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. [*Note that the meeting time has changed because of a change in library hours*]. Call Melissa Hayes, ADEQ Community Involvement Coordinator, for meeting details and proposed agenda. The CAB discussed the agenda for the next meeting, including an update on the Wrecksperts property and the WQARF budget.

10. Adjournment

Terri Hutts motioned to adjourn the meeting; Suzy Bjerke seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

This meeting was recorded on cassette tapes as a record of the proceedings. To listen to the tape, or for additional documents mentioned in these minutes, contact ADEQ's Southern Regional Office, Community Involvement Office, 520/628-6712.